

During 2008 training activities in Israel were held at MASHAV extensions and affiliated professional study centers, which provide the technical skills and personnel to conduct the courses. Following is a review of their activities:

CINADCO - Center for International Agricultural Development Cooperation

The Center for International Agricultural Development Cooperation (CINADCO), of Israel's Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, is MASHAV's main professional and operational arm in Israel for international agricultural rural development cooperation. CINADCO Headquarters operates from the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development Complex in Beit-Dagan, located near Tel Aviv. CINADCO's activities focus on key issues and topics related to agricultural development facing rural and peri-urban communities in developing countries.

CINADCO'S MAIN PROFESSIONAL FUNCTIONS:

- ◆ Human resource development.
- ◆ Transfer of know-how in different agricultural and resource base conditions.
- ◆ Professional and operational support for planning and implementation of agricultural programs and projects.
- ◆ Professional consultancy services for agribusiness development projects.
- ◆ Long-and short-term consultancy missions of experts to support overseas programs and projects
- ◆ Applied research and special programs in agriculture-related subjects.

CINADCO's activities take place in Asia, Africa, Eastern Europe, CIS Republics, the Middle East, Latin America and Oceania. Activities are conducted in English, Spanish, French, Russian, Arabic and other



Water experts from Jordan at CINADCO

local languages. The prime aim is to enhance development, economic growth and employment through human capacity building, transfer of expertise and technologies that have assisted Israel's own path to agricultural and rural development. CINADCO draws upon the development experience and professional skills of the pool of experts in the Israel Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, universities, institutes and the agro-sector of Israel at large.

A professional and operational network has likewise been developed with international institutions, organizations, and NGOs, through networking and development cooperation world wide. CINADCO's programs and implementation modalities are based on international agricultural training courses in Israel, overseas on-the-spot courses and workshops, joint agricultural research projects, development and operation of "demonstration cum training" oriented agricultural/technological projects, professional consultancy advisory missions, publication of specialized professional learning publications and materials.

TRAINING ACTIVITIES IN ISRAEL

The overall program in 2008 included 52 training activities in Israel (international courses and "tailor made" country specific courses). In summation, 809 participants from 63 countries attended the MASHAV/CINADCO yearly training program at its different campuses.

Agricultural training activities were implemented at both of CINADCO's training campuses, located at Kibbutz Shefayim and at the Agricultural Center, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, Beit-Dagan.

At Beit-Dagan, this past year, most of the activity involved training activities for participants from Egypt and Jordan. Regarding Egypt, the Tri-lateral cooperation with JICA continued. The courses for Jordan enter, as well, under a tri-lateral cooperation involving JICA. The trainees from Jordan were extension and research officials from the NCARE Institution. 12 activities were organized for these two countries, with a specialist invited from Japan to lecture at each course.

The main part of the training program was carried on at the MASHAV/CINADCO Training Center at Kibbutz Shefayim, involving mainly courses in English; Russian; French and Spanish.

OVERSEAS TRAINING PROGRAM

The Overseas Training Program more commonly known as "On-the-Spot" or Mobile Courses is an integral part of the overall human capacity program and of CINADCO activities at large.

During 2008, a total of 42 mobile courses were conducted in 14 countries involving 3,100 participants in Asia, Africa, Latin America, Central Asia, Middle East, and Central Eastern Europe.

Training activities are usually based on a team of two Israeli agricultural experts carrying out the courses in collaboration with organizations both from the public and private sectors. Programs are also conducted in collaboration with international organizations and donor countries.

The courses are tailor-made to meet specific local needs and requirements, thus assisting to address particular development issues and constraints. The Overseas Training Program is based on some 70 different professional subjects matter topics pertaining to agriculture and rural development. This is aimed of reaching and become relevant to a wide range of respective professionals, development managers, field operators, leading farmers, scientists, and decision makers in the agricultural and rural sector.

The overseas training program also manages **Research and Development and Special Programs**. In this context a joint regional cooperation program is conducted in collaboration and co-financing with DANIDA the Development Agency of the Government of Denmark. The program includes cooperation between Egypt, Jordan, the Palestinian Authority, Israel and Denmark. The aim is to develop and improve professionally sound practices relating to: Low-cost feed for small ruminants; marginal water for irrigation; agriculture in arid regions marketing and post-harvest care and aquaculture. The program is implemented by joint professional teams of the participating parties, conducting training courses, publication of professional and technical manuals relating to the various topics of the program. During 2008, about 20 separate activities, professional meetings, field experiments and seminars were held, in Egypt, Jordan and Israel.

SHORT-TERM CONSULTANCY MISSIONS

During 2008, 36 short-term Consultancy Missions were conducted in 23 countries. Seventeen written professional Mission Reports were prepared by the Mission Teams with the assistance of the Publications' Coordinator of CINADCO.

The topics covered involved a wide range of agricultural and technology-related topics such as: field crops; floriculture; nurseries; vegetables; dairy husbandry; apiculture, dairy, small ruminants; aquaculture; horticulture and green house technologies; water recourses development, irrigation and technology and other development related topics. The missions involve preparation of technical reports, recommendations and implementation programs.

DEVELOPMENT AND DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS

This area of activities involves the planning of development programs, project implementation work and the in-country management and technical support of actual development and professional management of demonstration cum training of agro-technology projects operating as "centers of excellence" to enhance agricultural and rural development. These centers are professionally managed by on-site Israeli agricultural experts on long-term missions jointly with a professional counterpart acting on behalf of the in-country project management.

During 2008, eight such demonstration training projects were operated and managed by Israeli experts on long-term missions. The experts were recruited and assigned to the projects following the completion of the planning process and the signing of an implementation agreement between the parties. A joint MASHAV/CINADCO committee selects the experts to manage the projects. Demonstration projects, including long-term assigned experts, are operated in the following countries:

China: Two major demonstration and training projects are in operation. A horticulture protected technology project and open field crops is managed in the western province of Xingjian. The other project, a national dairy development project, is operated in the vicinity of Beijing.

South Africa: The project focuses on the development of and enhancement of small scale farmers, introduction of irrigation technologies for small scale, family farm operations. The aim is to improve food security and income of families and villages communities.

Ethiopia: The jointly operated program between the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development of Ethiopia, USAID and MASHAV in collaboration with CINADCO continued its activity with visits of the experts to Ethiopia and study courses in Israel. The program is planned for a period of 3 years. The professional components of the project are livestock with emphasis on dairy, efficient water and irrigation technologies and management, biotechnology practices and improved high quality fruit-tree planting material.

Philippines: The project focuses on training of extension-staff and demonstration of improved farm practices, and the establishment of agricultural extension support services. The project is jointly managed with the agricultural university in the area.

Vietnam: Demonstration Dairy Farm. This is a national dairy development project, operating in the vicinity of Ho Chi Ming City. The professional aspects

and the management of the program are carried out by two on-site Israeli agricultural experts assigned to the program on a long-term mission.

Uzbekistan: Sustainable Livestock sector development and know-how project. The project is being managed by an Israeli agricultural livestock expert assigned to the project on a long-term mission.

OTHER ACTIVITIES AND INITIATIVES

During 2008 a wide range of new activities were initiated and carried out. These activities reflected the new approach and direction concerning planning and implementation of the technical cooperation of MASHAV, its main affiliated organizations and developing countries.

The Golda Meir Mount Carmel International Training Center (MCTC)

The Golda Meir Mount Carmel International Training Center (MCTC) works for the advancement of the status of women by promoting **poverty eradication and sustainable development**, in harmony with the **millennium development goals**. It works to place **gender issues** on the international agenda, recognizing the essential contribution of women to the development of their countries. MCTC strives for the social integration of women, youth, children, the elderly and migrants - all minority groups experiencing social exclusion, poverty and distress. MCTC has been providing international training activities for 47 years, since its creation in 1961 by MASHAV - Israel's International Cooperation Center.

MCTC has many links with international organizations, cooperating with them on a regular

basis to conduct short-term training activities for middle level professionals in the fields of community development and capacity building, early childhood education and development and organization, management and support of microenterprises, all with an emphasis on gender equality. These programs take place in situ at MCTC or on-the spot in any of the cooperating countries in Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean, Central Asia and Eastern Europe. Activities seek to involve women and men from developing nations and transitional societies in social and economic projects. Gender issues, poverty reduction and practical sustainable development are all addressed and participants are encouraged to use their new skills to implement improvements in their communities.

During close to 50 years of prolific output, MCTC training activities have always been seeking to solve the population problem; looking **to raise the status of women and increase their role in development**, to introduce and upgrade the education of the pre-school child, to improve the care of the elderly in the community and to use micro-entrepreneurship as a tool against poverty, especially for women and youth.

Since its foundation, over 13,500 trainees from 147 countries have studied at MCTC and many thousands more have been trained in their own countries. Thus the multiplier effect of the Center's significant contribution to the developing world has been substantial and widespread and the consequent critical mass formed by these trainees has caused an effective impact in many countries; in Nepal for example in programs to promote the rights of the girl-child and on the Latin America continent, through 'Business Labs' training in entrepreneurship for youth. Biennial international conferences for women leaders on topics on current concern, often held in cooperation with international organizations, have produced advisory documents or declarations which have been internationally disseminated. MCTC has also shown leadership in bringing together Israeli and Palestinian women to create a dialogue for promoting education for peace.

The year 2008 was characterized by the greatest number of training activities ever to have taken place at MCTC in a twelve-month period. This year's demand-driven timetabling resulted in 31 different programs taking place at the Center in Haifa, involving 713 participants, 469 women (66%) and 244 men.

These activities were either international or region-focused programs; 20 of them were Study Tours, or 'tailor-made' courses or seminars specially designed for groups of participants from one country,



Seminar on Combating Human Trafficking for Forced Labor

profession, background or language group – as for example the Workshop on *Health Management for Health Professionals* from Georgia, conducted in Russian, or the workshop on *Empowering First Nation Women*, from Canada.. In addition to those listed training activities, the Center also hosted numerous delegations and individuals from home and abroad, demonstrating MCTC's work within the framework of MASHAV and Haigud, Society for the Transfer of Technology.

ON –THE SPOT PROGRAMS

MCTC training staff and other experts representing MCTC/MASHAV traveled to Argentina, Colombia, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Ethiopia, Honduras, Ghana, Grenada, Jamaica, Mexico, Panama, Peru and Vietnam to conduct 17 on-the-spot programs. MCTC's involvement in the Millennium Villages Project and the Millennium Cities Initiative is demonstrated by training activities in Northern Ethiopia and in Kumasi in Ghana.

Two professional follow-up/ fact-finding missions were conducted by MCTC staff members, one in Turkey and a second in Ghana.

INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

Cooperating organizations this year have included the specialized United Nations agencies, UNICEF, UNECE, UNHabitat and UNESCO; international organizations, the IOM and Save the Children Norway; the American Joint Distribution Committee, CIMI and the Canadian Jewish Committee, in cooperation with the Canadian Jewish Congress and Larry and Judy Tanenbaum Foundation Fellowships.

Continuing the fruitful cooperation begun in 2002, the Young Americas Business Trust (YABT) has continued and expanded its activities with MCTC, for the first time bringing groups of trainers to Israel for three courses, two in English on Entrepreneurship for Youth and on Business Labs for Youth and one in Spanish on Small Business Development Centers. In addition, nine on-the spot courses have been conducted for the YABT in eight countries of Latin America and the Caribbean, at various levels of complexity.

Two prestigious International Seminars, attracting top-level experts in their field were held at MCTC in 2008, in conjunction with IOM and JDC/CIMI, one on *Women that Migrate: Building New Lives while Supporting those Left Behind*, and a second on *Combating Human Trafficking for Forced Labor*.

Professionals from Turkey took part in two special Study Tours on *Education for the Deaf* and on *Children at Risk*, to observe Israeli models at work.

CONTINUED REGIONAL DIALOGUE

MASHAV/MCTC policy of encouraging dialogue between Palestinian and Israeli women of all faiths was demonstrated in the continuation of the intense weekend Seminars on Women Building a New Reality that continued throughout the year, drawing an ever greater number of women into the pool of those able to work as coaches and trainers within their communities. The 14th Seminar was honored by the presence of Canadian Senator Mobina Jaffer, whose keynote address at MCTC's 2003 *International Conference on Women's Voice in Conflict Resolution and Peace Building* had initiated the series of Seminars.

MCTC's Director, staff and representatives also spoke at international conferences abroad and attended international meetings in Canada, North and South America, North, West and South Africa, West and East Europe.

MCTC's training methodology continues to be particularly suited to adults, with the 're-entry' module aiding their return to their work and home life. The inclusion of guest lecturers from abroad in specific international programs has also given an added professional value this year, as has choosing participants who come from the same institution (e.g., principals and teachers from a department of teacher training; supervisor, director, teacher, etc.) who can develop a proposal in common.

Sponsors, cooperative organizations and participants are constantly reminded that MCTC's 'bottom line' in our training programs is the creation of commitment among our trainees to strive to promote developmental projects and to benefit the poorest of the poor in developing countries. Achieving the MDGs – always the essence of MASHAV/MCTC policy – remains our overall objective.

Reports and letters received this year from various countries show that former participants have initiated programs for the empowerment of impoverished rural people, for the support of young children coping with the effects on their lives of HIV/AIDS and for increasing the number of women in decision-making bodies.

Our thanks and appreciation go to UNICEF Africa and UNICEF Guatemala, to UNESCO, UNIFEM, UNHabitat, SCF-Norway and SCF-USA, UNECE, YABT-OAS as well as the IOM for their cooperation and collaboration with us. We remain, as ever, grateful to the German Union of Soroptimist International of Europe and to the Mina Ben-Zvi Fund for their consistent contributions.

The Aharon Ofri International Training Center

The Ofri Center was established in 1989, jointly with the Israel Ministry of Education, as a core extension of MASHAV. The focus of the Ofri Center's expertise and activities is the transmission of knowledge about education - the foundation of civil society. It treats knowledge in the broadest sense - elementary school through adult learning, teaching and training for the development of basic skills, civic awareness, communication education, education for special populations, youth at risk and other age-related problems, the institutional integration of youth, and education for health and AIDS-prevention.

In conjunction with UN's Millennium Development Goals the global agenda, the Ofri Center has set a goal of contributing to human resources sustainable development worldwide, based on knowledge and experience accumulated by the state of Israel.

Since its establishment, the Center has trained thousands of program participants from throughout the world. It has introduced them to a wealth of Israeli knowledge and experience presented by top experts in the field of education - from the formal and informal education system, the media, and the areas of regional development and community activities. The Center cooperates with senior officials in the Ministry of Education, academic experts, and government organizations and NGOs in its areas of concern. It also maintains an ongoing cooperative relationship with international organizations such as UNESCO, OECD, USAID, the World Bank, and IOM (International Organization of Migration).

The Center aims to transfer knowledge gained in Israel in a manner that best suits the target countries

and enhances their use of the knowledge for human resources sustainable development. It seeks to train key personnel and agents of change in workshops conducted by Israeli experts in Israel and abroad. It works cooperatively with organizations within the target countries and integrates with existing processes in those locations. The Center's overall goal is to introduce workshop participants to the latest educational ideas and their practical application in areas that contribute to civil society, inform them of the dilemmas and difficulties involved in implementing the ideas, and suggest highly useful approaches for handling these obstacles.

The Ofri Center also works with developed countries in areas of joint interest, sharing knowledge that can benefit both Israel and the cooperating nations. The following are the Ofri Center main fields of activity:

TEACHER TRAINING

Through workshops, guidance, and training, the Center addresses issues faced by today's professional school staff: the changing role of school principal, empowerment of classroom teachers, staff development, and advancement and evaluation processes. The workshops present advance pedagogical methods and a variety of approaches to teaching specific subjects, among them mathematics, technology, science, art, and basic skills (literacy). The training also suggests practical methods for integrating multiple intelligence and interdisciplinary approaches in the educational process. Subjects include, among others: Pedagogical staff development and empowerment of the school principal and classroom teachers; Advanced teaching methods in specific subject-matters (science, languages, etc.) as well as interdisciplinary subject areas; and Management of educational institutions.



Course on Young Leadership

CURRICULA

The Ofri Center introduces program participants to national policy considerations that must be taken into account when determining curricula, standards, and evaluation methods. It also provides tools for curriculum development from the planning and design level up to the level of everyday classroom use. Subjects include, among others: Tools for curricular development from the national to the classroom levels; Curricula that incorporate holistic approaches; Development of evaluation tools as a means of promoting excellence.

SPECIAL POPULATIONS

The Center's workshops focus on treatment processes for special populations, taking into consideration national policy, application methods, and the integration of parents and the community in these efforts. A variety of approaches are introduced in order to provide participants with methods that can be successfully applied in their specific communities. For example:

- ◆ Special education – diagnostic techniques, integration programs, special curricula, treatment for a variety of populations with special needs.
- ◆ Preparedness of the educational system for coping with special incidents or traumatic events, and treating both victims and their environment.
- ◆ Education for gifted students and education for excellence – identification of gifted and potentially gifted students, enrichment programs, development of special programs, etc.
- ◆ Programs for at-risk youth, including their integration into the educational system.
- ◆ Integration of immigrant youth into the educational system.
- ◆ Adult education - methods, frameworks for enrichment and professional development.

The Center also conducts training and workshops that introduce programs for raising public awareness and encouraging citizens' involvement. For schoolchildren, K-12, the workshops demonstrate programs for formal and informational education. Participants are trained for developing life skills as well as for promoting education for Sexual health and AIDS prevention.

For adults, the training suggests methods for encouraging citizens' participation in civic life and raising awareness for governmental work processes. Subjects include, among others: Raising citizens' awareness about democracy as part of the elementary school and high school curricula; Raising citizens' awareness about democracy in the community, and encouraging citizens' participation in democratic processes; Community education and educational initiatives; Education for health and AIDS prevention,

using a multi-disciplinary and comprehensive approach and unique pedagogical methods; and E-Government - Citizens' access to governmental processes.

During 2008, over 459 professionals participated in Ofri Center activities: 8 international courses; 4 tailor-made courses; 2 on-the-spot courses; and 2 study tours.

The Weitz Center for Development Studies

The Weitz Center for Development Studies is a non profit NGO engaged in training, planning, consulting and research on regional and local development in Israel and, in the developing world. The Center has long term cooperation with MASHAV, mainly in training activities.

The Weitz Center courses are interdisciplinary by nature, and participants are professionals in the fields of development, planning, agriculture, economy, sociology and more. More than 4,000 professionals from developing countries have taken part in the Weitz Center training programs, based in the internationally recognized "Rehovot Approach" of Integrated Regional Development, which aims at the eradication of poverty and the promotion of social-economic rural & urban development. The "Rehovot Approach" views the region as the basic unit for development and planning and has been applied in many less developed areas of developing countries.

Additional areas of specialization include: Regional & Local Competitivity; Income Generating Activities in Rural Areas; Strategic Planning for Local Development; Sustainable Services Delivery Systems; Local Economic Development; Urban Rehabilitation Projects; Development Projects Formulation; Development of Rural Tourism; Entrepreneurship Promotion; Promoting Urban-Rural Sustainable Development.



Seminar on Local and Regional Competitivity for Latin America

During 2008, the training and capacity building activities of the Weitz Center included 5 international courses, 1 seminar and 6 Study Visits held in Israel, reaching a total of 228 trained professionals from 31 countries and 1 On-The-Spot course.

The regular courses included: “Local and Regional Competitiveness” (2 courses and a Seminar for Latin America countries in Spanish); “Local Development and Strategies for Poverty Reduction in Africa” (2 courses in English for African countries) and “Tourism as a Tool for Local and Regional Development in Kenya” (English). Most of the courses were conducted in collaboration with UN-HABITAT.

The On-The-Spot course was conducted in Kumasi, Ghana on “Strengthening Strategic Planning Capacity”.

Study visits were organized for high ranking officials from Nigeria and Chile. One study visit was designated for agricultural high-schools students from Chile and their teachers. All of the study visits included lectures as well as field visits to many income generating projects in rural and urban areas and meetings with decision-making personnel in the field of rural and urban development in Israel.

The Center conducted the Third Integrated Development Projects Competition in memoriam of Prof. Raanan Weitz. 20 projects from 12 countries participated in the competition. Ms. Miriam W. Siekavizza from Guatemala won the first prize for her Project on “The Integral Development of the Municipality of Santiago Atitlán, Sololá”.

The Israel Agricultural Research Organization - Volcani Center

The Agricultural Research Organization (ARO) is the research arm of Israel’s Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development. ARO is responsible for planning, organizing and implementing the greater part of Israel’s agricultural research effort. ARO is concerned with the solving of current problems in agricultural production and providing for future improvements, through the introduction of new products, precise technologies and modern equipments.

While encompassing the full range of agricultural research activities, ARO, located at the Volcani Center campus in Bet-Dagan, near Tel-Aviv, focuses in particular on arid zone agriculture, enabling Israel - a country short of all the resources required for agriculture - to achieve among the highest levels of

agricultural output in the world.

Among ARO’s areas of special expertise are: agriculture under arid conditions; agriculture on marginal soils; irrigation using effluent and saline water; crop cultivation in protected environments; freshwater fish farming under conditions of water shortage; minimization of produce losses through use of latest pest control and post-harvest storage methods; breeding and development of new strains of crops and domestic animals better suited to the adverse conditions which already exist in many parts of the world, and which are likely to become even more prevalent in the future.

The Unit for International Cooperation (UIC) of the Agricultural Research Organization (ARO), The Volcani Center, administers fellowships for individual researchers and scientists wishing to undertake individual training in one of ARO’s laboratories, under the supervision of a specialist researcher. The fellowships are normally for periods from 3 months up to 2 years. While the ARO does not itself finance the fellowships, the UIC is able to direct applicants to possible sources of funding and if required may facilitate contact between a specific applicant and an appropriate research supervisor.

The UIC also helps incoming trainees with pre-arrival arrangements, and provides advice and assistance for the duration of the training period, if required.

In 2008, MASHAV activities in cooperation with the ARO-UIC and CINADCO, the Center for International Agricultural Development Cooperation included the following courses: R&D in Irrigation and Soil Protection; R&D in Integrated Pest Management; and Promotion of Methyl Bromide Alternatives to Comply with its Phase-out. An additional 12 courses were offered at the Volcanic Center in Arabic for professionals from Egypt and Jordan.



Course on R&D in Promotion of Methyl Bromide Alternatives to Comply with its Phase-out

The Hebrew University's Robert H. Smith Faculty of Agriculture, Food and Environment

The Faculty of Agriculture, Food and Environment is the only institute of higher education in Israel offering university degrees in agriculture and is also home to the only Schools of Nutritional Sciences and of Veterinary Medicine. Established in 1942, the Faculty today has a student body of 2,400 students.

The Faculty offers academic programs leading to B.Sc., M.Sc. and Ph.D. degrees in Agriculture, B.Sc. and M.Sc. degrees in Nutrition, and a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine degree. The Faculty also offers through its Division for External Studies international short-term postgraduate courses on various agricultural subjects, and a Masters of Science in Agriculture degree program and a Post-Graduate Diploma in Plant Sciences and/or Nutritional Sciences, all of which are conducted in English for foreign students. Three international postgraduate courses were conducted in the year 2008 in which participants received MASHAV scholarships:

- ◆ Sustainable Development of Livestock Breeding for participants from Uzbekistan
- ◆ Aquaculture: Production and Management for participants from Nigeria, Uganda and Ghana
- ◆ Agricultural Related Water Management at the Millennium Villages Project in Africa

The Faculty's teaching and research activities continue to play a central role in advancing agriculture to strengthen the Israeli economy, while training tomorrow's scientists and agriculturists; protecting and rehabilitating the environment, while increasing food production and reducing world hunger; mobilizing agriculture to meet human health needs and



Course on Agricultural Related Water Management at the Millennium Villages Project in Africa

improving the quality and purity of agricultural products; and sharing the benefits of Israeli research and innovation with other nations.

Some of the Faculty research achievements and innovations include methods of drip irrigation and fertigation; tomatoes and other fruits and vegetables bred with long shelf life, improved taste and disease resistance; returning the fragrance to flowers; intensive arid-zone agriculture; soil solarization - a nonchemical method of controlling soil borne plant diseases; green-farming techniques - use of natural biofertilizers and biocontrol by biofungicides and parasitic insects - to reduce the use of chemical fertilizers, fungicides and pesticides; recycling technologies for waste-water reclamation and composting of solid municipal and agricultural wastes; using plants to purify water polluted by heavy metals.

Research at the Faculty has improved and increased yields of fruits, vegetables, grain crops, flowers and cotton; helped overcome problems of pest damage and soil contamination; led to the most efficient use of water for agriculture; produced ground-breaking innovations in irrigation techniques; helped develop Israel's annual flower export from almost nil in the 1960's, to its current status as one of the largest exporters of flowers in the world, and much more.

It is our anticipation that participants will enrich their respective countries with new scientific knowledge and research approaches as well as establishing a basis for future research cooperation between the participants and the researchers at the Faculty.

Tel Aviv University, Sackler Faculty of Medicine, School of Continuing Medical Education

Established in 1988, the International Postgraduate Training Program in Medicine is a joint venture between MASHAV and the School of Continuing Medical Education at the Sackler Faculty of Medicine at Tel Aviv University. In 2009 the program will celebrate its' 20 Year Anniversary.

The program offers eleven-weeks of individualized training to qualified and experienced physicians. Three sessions were held in 2008: C-57 (Winter) focused on the Prevention of Infant Mortality, C-58 (Spring) focused on Emergency Medicine and the last session of 2008 C-59 (Autumn) focused on doctors from Africa, specializing in different fields of medicine.



Course on Emergency Medicine

The entire program is conducted in English. Basic instruction in emergency medicine and primary life support (ACLS) is also part of the curriculum, as well as a medically-oriented Internet Workshop. We also provide a few Hebrew lessons in order to teach the participating doctors some basic daily vocabulary.

The participants take an active part in the daily routine of the departments and in conferences, seminars and congresses which may take place in Israel during their stay. The doctors are also taken on tours of the country and are invited to social activities organized especially for them. The physicians are encouraged to identify a bilateral research project of mutual interest to the hosting department and their local medical system.

Courses begin in autumn, winter and spring. The participants receive a temporary license to practice medicine from the Ministry of Health, as well as being covered by malpractice insurance and health insurance for as long as they are enrolled in the program. Upon successful completion of the training program, a graduation certificate is awarded.

The Negev Institute for Strategies of Peace and Development – NISPED

The Negev Institute for Strategies of Peace and Development (NISPED) focuses on the role of civil society – the voluntary, people-centered, non-governmental groups and organizations – in furthering conflict resolution and sustainable human development and in working effectively with governments and international institutions to these ends.

NISPED serves as a center for education, training and project development in societies undergoing fundamental processes of transformation. These processes include transition from conflict to conflict

resolution; from poverty and dependence to selfhood and social advance; from dictatorship to democracy and economic freedom. NISPED conducts courses, seminars and workshops for leaders, activists and trainers drawn from relevant civil society and government bodies.

NISPED operates through its three divisions:

- ◆ NCEP-SME – The International Center for the Promotion of Small and Medium Enterprises
- ◆ ICECOS – The International Center for Cooperative Studies
- ◆ AJEEC – the Arab-Jewish Center for Equality, Empowerment and Cooperation.



Course on Enterprise Promotion, Empowerment and Sustainable Human Development in Rural Africa

NISPED courses are conducted in partnership with MASHAV and with other bodies including the International Cooperative Alliance, the ILO, AFAN, SCC, He'atid – South Africa, the Economic Division of the Israeli Embassy in Nigeria, Palestinian NGOs and others,

In 2008 NISPED conducted the following international courses with MASHAV:

- ◆ Two courses on “Enterprise Promotion, Empowerment and Sustainable Human Development in Rural Africa” in cooperation with the SCC – Swedish Cooperative center designed for participants from east Africa – Kenya, Tanzania, Rwanda, Uganda.
- ◆ “Enterprise Promotion, Empowerment and Sustainable Human Development in Rural Africa” in cooperation with the AFAN – All Farmer Association of Nigeria designed for participants from Nigeria.
- ◆ A course for Palestinians on “Raising Goats and Milk Production” in cooperation with CINADCO.

Rambam Health Care Campus – The Teaching Center for Trauma, Emergency and Mass Casualty Situations

The Teaching Center for Trauma, Emergency and Mass Casualty Situations is located at the Rambam Health Care Campus, the only Level One Trauma Center and tertiary care hospital in the north of Israel, serving a population of 1.5 million people. The philosophy of The Teaching Center is to share the knowledge accumulated at Rambam Health Care Campus and in Israel in the last 50 years concerning the organization of a trauma system, mass casualty situations and resuscitation.

Since 1999, The Teaching Center has organized and successfully delivered in cooperation with MASHAV a yearly international course for physicians and nurses entitled “Developing and Organizing a Trauma System”. Some 295 participants from 56 countries have participated in these courses. At the end of the course, participants present a model for the establishment of a trauma system in their countries.

Over the years, participants from Costa Rica, Portugal and Thailand have succeeded in developing a trauma system in their countries. Due to their exposure to the Israeli system and their personal efforts, a change which improves the local trauma system was made and, as a result, the treatment of patients in these countries was also improved.

In addition to the international course, the Teaching Center organized specially designed courses on Trauma System and Mass Casualty Management for medical staff from the All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) in New Delhi, India. An advanced Course for AIIMS staff was held in New Delhi at November 2008. Additional activities in 2008 included: a course for physicians from China held at the Rambam Health Care Campus on January 2008;



Physicians from China at Rambam Health Care Campus

and a course on Preparedness for Mass Casualty held in Santiago, Chile, for physicians and nurses.

The Center also consulted and assisted in developing trauma systems in several countries, and its lecturers have been invited to make presentations at international conferences

The Center for Cooperation and Advancement

The Center for Cooperation and Advancement (CCA) was established in 2003. CCA activities are conducted in Russian, in partnership with MASHAV and in cooperation with governmental and non-governmental international organizations (USAID, IOM, Soros Foundation, the World Bank, and UNDP among others).

CCA focuses on societies undergoing deep processes of transformation: from centralized to free markets economies, from political dictatorship to democracy, from poverty to social and economical advance. Our programs are application oriented: Participants learn to combine theory and reality by developing creative thinking and finding both traditional and modern applicable answers. The training courses and workshops aim to develop a mechanism of “self-doing” by adapting the methods learned in Israel to the realities of the participant’s home country. The CCA training activities center in the following areas: NGO’s in Civil Society; Leadership in Democratic Societies; Women Leadership in the Civil Society; Transition to a Market Economy; Promotion of Small Scale Businesses; Innovation and Entrepreneurship; The Role of Mass Media in Civil Society; Media StrategieIn 2008 over 320 professionals from 8 countries participated in 3 international courses in Israel, and 13 tailor-made courses especially organized for Lithuanian, Russian and Ukrainian organizations.



Course participants at the Center for Cooperation and Advancement



The First International Training Course on Climate Change and Desertification Processes Assessment and Monitoring

The Israel Meteorological Training Center

The Regional Meteorological Training Center (RMTc) is a joint enterprise of MASHAV and the Israeli Meteorological Service. Recognized by the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) as a training center providing postgraduate training in applied meteorology, the RMTc has trained thousand of meteorologists, agronomists and hydrologists from developing countries. The center provides training both in Israel and abroad. In addition, it provides consultancies to meteorological services and undertakes research activities in applied meteorology and agrometeorology.

During 2008 a total of 214 professionals from around the world participated in RMTc training activities, including: an International Postgraduate Training Course on "Climate and Desertification Processes – Assessment and Monitoring" held in Israel, and 5 on-the-spot training courses abroad: two in China; one in Thailand (Bangkok); one in Turkey (Menemen), and one in Ethiopia (Addis Ababa).

The Arava Institute for Environmental Studies

The Arava Institute for Environmental Studies is the premier environmental teaching and research program in the Middle East, preparing future Arab and Jewish leaders to cooperatively solve the region's

environmental challenges. Located in the heart of Israel's Arava desert, the Arava Institute is a unique oasis of environmental education, research, and international cooperation.

Students and researchers at the Arava Institute explore a range of environmental issues from a regional, interdisciplinary perspective while learning peace-building and leadership skills. The studies are international in scope, with a student body comprised of Jordanians, Palestinians, Israelis, and North Americans, as well as other nationalities. The

Arava Institute gives Jewish, Arab and other students a unique opportunity to study and live together for an extended period of time; building networks and understanding that will enable future cooperative work and activism in the Middle East and beyond. Here, the idea that nature knows no political borders is more than a belief. It is a fact, a curriculum, and a way of life.

In December 2008 MASHAV and the Arava Institute organized in collaborative partnership with the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA), a weeklong workshop on "The Role of Native and Desert-Adapted Species for the Purpose of Slowing Desertification" with the purpose of offering professionals involved in all manner of desertification issues hands on information on practical methods of reversing the trend of soil degradation, including hydrological strategies and information on native and desert-adapted plant species that mitigate the damage and the accompanying policy measures to effect change.

The International Institute – Histadrut

The International Institute was founded by the General Federation of Workers in Israel, the Histadrut, in 1958 and is a non-profit organization. Today the International Institute incorporates the Afro-Asian Institute (ILDEC), the Latin America, Spain and Portugal Institute (CECLAL), the Institute for Eastern and Central Europe, and the Middle East Division.

The International Institute, located on the Beit Berl Campus near Kfar Saba, promotes tolerance, social justice, development, peace and democracy. The Institute programs are geared to a wide spectrum of organizations, including trade unions, professional associations, cooperatives, journalists, women and youth organizations, rural development organizations, grass-root people’s organizations, urban community development centers and others.

In 2008 the International Institute conducted four international courses in cooperation with MASHAV: Police and Community, Civil Projects for City Security, The Role of Media in Peace and Development Processes - in Spanish; and Crime Prevention among Youngsters.



Participants in the Police and Community course

The Hebrew University Braun School of Public Health and Community Medicine

The Braun School of Public Health Community Medicine was established in 1961 and its goal is to improve the physical, mental and social welfare of the population of Israel, and elsewhere, with a commitment to excellence in multidisciplinary academic activity; intervention in policy formulation which influences health and development of quality professional leadership.

For many years, MASHAV has been sponsoring the Braun School of Public Health Community Medicine one-year long Master in Public Health offered to physicians and nurses from all the world.

In November 2008 MASHAV sponsored a Continuing Public Health Program for 25 health professionals from the Hebei and Shanghai regions of China. The two-week program was organized by the WHO Center at the Braun School together with the Ministry of Health. Topics included: Field Epidemiology, Communicable Diseases, Emerging and Re-emerging Diseases and Non-communicable diseases, among many others.

In December 2008, Prof. Elliot Berry and Dr. Ronny Shtarkshall from the Braun School and within the framework of the WHO Center at the Braun School conducted a seminar in Kumasi, Ghana on the topic of “How can a health team make a difference - Prevention and management of lifestyle related diseases through cultural adaptation”. The seminar was part of MASHAV’s health projects in cooperation with the Millennium Cities Initiative.